



The Learning Lamp

Where Military Experience and Public Education Meet

Arizona Troops to Teachers

Volume I Issue 4

November 2006

Director's Message

With the 2006-2007 school year well under way, I hope you all are doing well. I find this a great opportunity to welcome several of our new teachers:

Joe Kroto, USMC, at Vail High School

Chuck Nystrom, USAF, Accelerated Learning Lab

Bryan Pratt, USAF, Buckeye Union High School

Patricia Weaver, USN, Arizona Dept of Corrections

Steven Jackson, USAF, Gila Crossing Community School

Damien Abplanalp, USA, Parker High School

Rick Losleben, ARNG, Globe High School

Beth Almanza, USAF, Liberty Traditional School

Steven Frederick, USAF, Dietz Elementary

Luke Haefner, USN, Santan Heights

Pam Lizardi, ARNG, Show Low High School

Bernie O'Keefe, USAF, Desert Vista High School

Wayne King, USAF, Bradley Academy

Willie Jordan, USAF, Ray High School

Erika Marinelli, USAF, Sequoia Charter School

Jim Converse, USAF, Cottonwood Middle School

George Schrader, USA, Westview High School

John Guse, USAF, Union Elementary

Robert Nonnenmacher, USAF, Mesa High School

Ashford Harrigan, USN, Frank Borman Middle School

William Garlington, USAF, Carson Middle School



Arizona Dept of Education
Tom Horne, Superintendent of
Public Instruction

Mark Orgeron, USN, Castle Dome Middle School

David Patrow, USA, Pinon Elementary

Bobby Jones, USN, Country Gardens

Craig Narramore, USN, Canyon Day JHS

Steve Gardea, USMC, Orangdale Elementary

Jeff Smith, USAF, Pueblo Magnate High School

Alyssa Finkelstein, USN, Maricopa High School

Donald Johnson, USAF, Cholla High School

David Olsen, ANG, Maricopa Wells Middle School

David Wagner, USN, Canyon State Academy

David Paasch, USA, LaJoya Community HS

Michael Kubasko, USAF, Westwind Primary

Deborah Howard, USN, Sunrise Elementary

I hope you are each finding your new "second" career a rewarding experience and I welcome you to our AZTTT "family."

Support the Hopi Jr/Sr High School JROTC project "Building Bridges."

Click [here](#) for details. Visit the school web page [here](#).

Director's Travel Schedule

Flagstaff Certification Office,
2384 Steves Blvd, Rm #137,
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 679-8117

December 29, February 23,
April 27, June 29, August 24

Tucson Certification Office,
400 W. Congress St. #118,
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 628-6326

January 26, March 30, May 25,
July 27, September 28

- December 14, 1400: TTT Presentation—Luke AFB, FTD-Blg 936
- January 8-11: Western States Certification Consortium, San Diego
- January 14-18: TTT State managers Annual Conference, Washington DC
- April 3-6: Joint Conference on Alternative Certification, Washington, DC

Inside this issue:

Director's Message 1
Director's Travel Sched. 1

Fingerprints 2

AZ Stats 2

"Movin' On Up" 3

Performance Assessment (update) 3

Middle Grade AEPAs 3

GI Bil Covers Teacher OJT 3

Social Studies: Certification vs. Highly Qualified 4

Spouse Scholarships 4

Veterans Day Activities 4

Vets News 5

Featured Teaching Tool 5

Recommended Reading 6

Important Info/Dates:

- Please review your fingerprint card expiration date
- Next AEPA: January 27th (Phoenix, Tucson, Yuma, Flagstaff, and Houston)
- [AEPA Workshop: Jan 20th \(@ASU Main\)](#)
- SEI Full Endorsement requirements must be met by August 31, 2009**
- PLEASE Notify this office is you contract, move, change email, etc.**

CERTIFICATION NEWS

Fingerprints



As you are probably aware, Arizona Revised Statute A.R.S. §15-534(A) requires that a person who applies for a certificate shall have a valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Department of Public Safety. A.R.S. §12-534(B) requires that "A person who is certified...shall maintain a valid fingerprint clearance card during the valid period of the person's certificate or certificates."

It is the individual teacher's responsibility to maintain current fingerprint cards for the duration of any certification. Teachers found to be teaching without a valid fingerprint card may be reported to the hiring district and may be suspended without pay until a valid fingerprint card is obtained.

In the near future you may start receiving email notification from this office a month or two before your fingerprint expires, as a friendly reminder to update your fingerprint card.

To obtain an application packet for fingerprint clearance card, contact the Arizona Department of Public Safety. A fee of \$52 (check or money order only) is required. Note that in many locations, your local police department will "roll" your fingerprints for a nominal fee. It is suggested that you check with your SRO (on campus police officer) who will usually provide the service at no charge. Also, if you have base access, Security will usually do this for you at no charge. Base phone numbers:

Luke AFB, 623-856-1110

D-M AFB, 520-228-3500

Ft Huachuca, 520-538-2102

MCAS Yuma, 928-269-2361

Department of Public Safety:

PO Box 18390

Phoenix, AZ 85005

602-223-2279

[DPS/Fingerprint web page](#)

AZ Stats

Our program continues to thrive here in Arizona. We are seeing a continual stream of registrations. We have 330 certified teachers and yet our records indicate only 130 are employed for SY06-07. I cannot stress the importance of keeping this office up to date of your employment status. There is an update form that can be completed and submitted to us online through our web page at www.azed.gov/troops2teachers. Feel free to use this form, or contact us via phone or email when you are contracted to teach, move, change email addresses, etc.

Aside from those already certified, there are another 200+ members that have not taken "the next step" to begin a teacher preparation program and/or enter teaching. Still another 100+ are in the "thinking about" transitioning to teaching stage and have yet to regis-

ter with TTT. Also, we are hearing from more and more spouses inquiring about teacher certification—This is great! Although AZ is not one of the selected pilot states of the Spouses to Teachers program, we are happy to provide the same counseling and referral services to any spouse (or dependent) that desire to pursue a career in teaching. More information on Spouses to Teachers can be found at www.spousetoteachers.com. Here are some statistics for AZTTT:

\$1.25 million awarded for stipends/bonuses

- 29% for stipends (prep coursework)

- 71% for bonus (teaching at high needs schools)

72% enlisted 28% officer//warrant officer

Air Force = 34%

Army = 26%

Navy = 15%

Marine Corps = 8%

Army National Guard = 6%

Air National Guard = 1%

Reserves (all branches) = 9%

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops. Henry Books Adams

It is well that war is so terrible, or we should get too fond of it. Robert E. Lee

Have a good education/military quote? Send it to us!



Movin' On Up

Arizona is becoming one of the premier states in the TTT community. With the most recent program status report (1 Nov), Arizona has become the #8 state in TTT teacher placements, moving ahead of South Carolina. Our state has had much success in building relationships with our more than 200 school districts to hire TTT teachers. And what you are

doing in classrooms every day is being seen, thus leading to more schools wanting to "tap into" TTT teachers. From Gene Noel's feature in the *Arizona Republic* and Tom George in the *East Valley Tribune*, to Embry Riddle's three \$40,000 scholarships to Amos Chiarappa's robotics students in Chinle and Manny Gatica's excelling students in Nogales, schools are

taking notice of our TTT teachers successes. I urge you to continue to "spread the word" to your administrators and Human Resource folks that our TTT applicant pool is deep and would reap endless benefits to their students and staff. There are still so many schools and districts that seem to have never heard of our program. The more we can get our message

out there to those principals and HR personnel, it can only lead to Arizona continuing to "move on up" and compete with the large states such as Texas, Virginia, Florida, and California.

You can view the latest TTT status report by [clicking here](#).

Performance Assessment

After being changed from June 1st to September 1st, the implementation of the performance assessment has again been changed. The following is from the ADE web page:

"On September 25, 2006, the State Board of Education voted to delay implementation on the performance assessment. Therefore, requirements for converting provisional certificates to standard certificates will remain un-

changed until further notice."

I cannot give any further guidance on when implementation of the performance assessment is anticipated, but I will certainly get the word out to you when I hear anything further. I strongly recommend you consider obtaining a provisional certificate as soon as possible if you don't have one already. As long as you have your initial provisional certificate before the implementation date you will not have to complete the per-

formance assessment—in other words, you will be 'grandfathered' under current rules when you obtained your initial provisional certificate. Keep in mind there are many different requirements to be met before you can be eligible to obtain a provisional certificate, depending on what your teaching interests are. We are always available to consult with you in outlying what options you have to pursue a path to the classroom. Please contact us if you would like to go over your options with you 1-on-1.

Note:
The "roll out" date For the Performance Assessment has been delayed "until further notice."

[ADE Performance Assessment web page](#)

Middle Grade AEPAs

As most of you know, the new Middle Grade Mathematics AEPA "hit the street" in April 2006. To have Middle Grade Math added as an approved area to an elementary or secondary certificate now requires a passing score on the appropriate AEPA. In April 2007, AEPAs will also be available for Middle Grade Language Arts/Reading, Middle Grade General Science, and Middle Grade Social Studies. When these are posted on your certificate it will specifically state "Middle Grades Math 7-8", "Middle Grade General Science 7-8", "Middle Grades Social Studies 7-8" and/or "Middle Grades Language Arts/Reading 7-8."

You can not have a secondary certificate with a "stand alone" approved area in any of these Middle Grades areas. You must have a "regular" 7-12 area (i.e. Biology, History, etc) already valid on your secondary certificate to add any of the Middle Grades areas. Currently the only Middle Grade AEPA study guide available is for Middle Grades Math. Contact this office if you would like to preview the study guide. As always, we are available if you would like to discuss your options to pursue any of these Middle Grades approved areas and your particular certification.

GI Bill Covers Teacher OJT

First year teachers who are eligible for the GI Bill may now receive VA Education Benefits for On-the-Job Training (OJT) during their first contract year. They can be teaching with a regular professional certificate or a temporary authorization certificate. Approval of on-the-job training programs for teachers must be sought through your [State Approving Agency](#).

Requirements:

- Application for VA Benefits
- Application for approval of the OJT position
- Training outline developed by school officials, including a letter detailing mentoring/supervision by either principal or experienced teacher.
- Designate a school official to serve as the contact person between the school, AZ Dept of Ed and the VA.

Benefits:

- First year teachers can receive VA Ed Benefits that are paid directly to him/her. This is a valuable addition to first year salaries. The benefit on a ten-month contract can range from \$2,286.90 for a reserve/guard member to \$8,927.02 for a career servicemember eligible under Chapter 34/30. The amount depends upon their chapter of eligibility and their years of service.
- This benefit is separate from TTT and may be used in addition to TTT funds.

Social Studies: Certification vs. Highly Qualified

You may have pondered the question of whether to have social studies as an approved area on your certification, or to have one of the individual areas of history, geography, economics or political science/American government. This is a very tricky question to answer. School districts manage their curriculum differently across the state. Here is the way NES (the AEPa testing company) explains:

"The AEPa Social Studies test (field 03) may be taken to satisfy assessment requirements for

teachers seeking certification for grades 7 through 12. The AEPa Social Studies test (field 03) cannot be used to satisfy NCLB "highly qualified" requirements for grades 9 through 12. Instead, candidates in grades 9 through 12 will need to pass one of the following tests:

- Economics (field 35)
- Geography (field 04)
- History (field 05)
- Political Science/American Government (field 06)"

A case scenario includes teaching an 11th grade US/AZ History class. The teacher is appropriately certified with an approved area of "Social Studies" but to be considered highly qualified must have passed the History (05) AEPa. The teacher does not necessarily have to have "history" as an approved area on their certificate in addition to "social studies" though I would recommend doing so. My advice to teachers in the social studies areas is to narrow your initial focus to the individual content area (i.e. history, geography, etc),

take AEPa content test in that area, and put that content area as an approved area on your certificate. Furthermore, I recommend testing in multiple areas and having as many approved areas on your certificate as possible. Doing so only makes you more marketable in seeking a position as well as more inviting to a school with multiple position vacancies. As always, to discuss your individual path 1-on-1 please contact us.

Spouse Scholarships

The National Military Family Association's [Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships](#) are awarded to spouses of Uniformed Services members (active duty, Guard and Reserve, retirees, and survivors) to obtain professional certification or to attend post secondary or graduate school. Scholarships are normally in the amount of \$1,000, and the number awarded each year varies depending on funding. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, fees, books, and school room and board. For

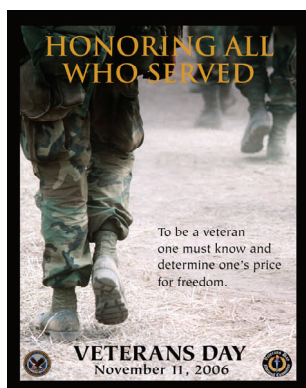
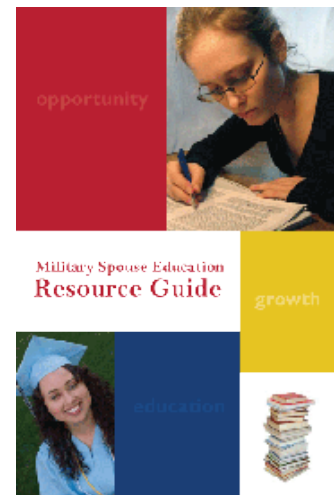
award year 2006, thirty-one military spouses received \$1,000 scholarships.

"I am well aware of the challenges that this lifestyle makes on the spouse who must balance family priorities with a need to prepare for a future career. It is critical that spouses of service members obtain the best possible education. A scholarship can make an important difference."

- Joanne Holbrook Patton

There is now a one-stop guide that offers information on starting your education, available scholarships and grants, and the many opportunities that are accessible to military spouses. NMFA has designed a Military Spouse Education Resource Guide to identify educational opportunities available to spouses of members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Public Health Service and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

[You can order the Guide or view it online here.](#)



Veterans Day Ceremonies

Carl T. Hayden VAMC

Veterans Day Parade

November 11

Begins

11am at Montebello & 7th Street

Ends

12:30pm at North Phoenix Baptist church

Contact: Paula.Pedene@va.gov

Bullhead City

November 11

11am

Desert Lawn Cemetery

&

The Arizona Memorial

Contact: Joe Morales,

Commander, MOPH

928-763-9798

Don't forget the free buffet dinner November 13th, 5-9pm at participating locations of the

[Golden Corral](#)

View and download Veterans Day posters from 1978 to 2006

[here.](#)

Veteran's News...

Veterans Pride Initiative

The Department of Veterans Affairs calls on all veterans to express their patriotism and pride on Veterans Day and other major patriotic holidays through a display of medals earned in their military service. Join your comrades in public display of your military decorations. It's a way to show your community the spirit of America's veterans and remind your neighbors of the service and sacrifice of those who guarded democracy. As we salute America's heroes on Veterans Day, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, wear your medals and show your pride, whether participating in public observances or relaxing with family and friends. Your medals tell a story of service in the cause of freedom that all Americans need to hear.

Learn more about [Veterans Pride Initiative](#)

AZ Veterans Organizations:

American Legion: Art Brest, 602-640-4701, www.legion.org

American Veterans (AMVETS): Bud McDevitt, 602-640-4645, www.amvets.org

AZ Dept of Veterans Services: Pat Chorpensing, 602-255-3373, www.azdvs.gov

Disabled American Veterans: Chad Moos, 602-640-4655, www.dav.org

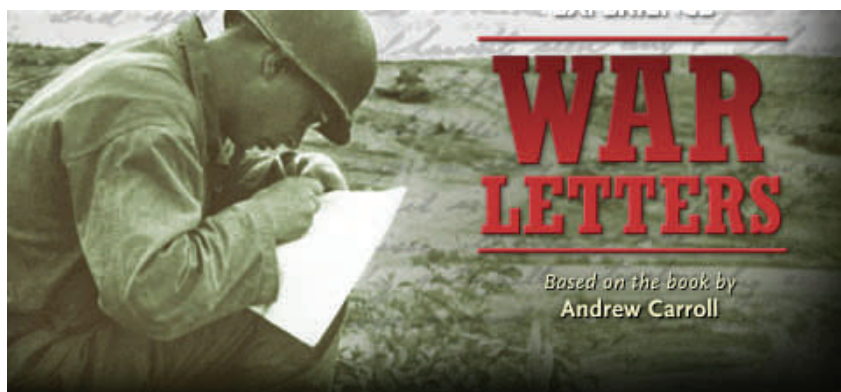
Paralyzed Veterans of America: John Bignall, 602-640-4700, www.pva.org

Veterans of Foreign Wars: Theodore Griffith, 602-640-4719, www.vfw.org

Military Order of the Purple Heart: Dom DiGiovanni, 602-640-4804, www.purpleheart.org



Featured Teaching Tool/Activity



Based on newly discovered personal correspondence from the Revolutionary War to the Gulf War, *War Letters* brings to life vivid eyewitness accounts of famous battles, intimate declarations of love and longing, poignant letters penned just before the writer was killed, and heartbreaking "Dear John" letters from home. The best of these letters transcend the subject of war: they are about love, perseverance, honor, passion, and faith. Most are unpublished, many rescued from oblivion in attics and basements. Read by a cast of celebrity actors, they are illustrated with a blend of dramatic archival footage and photographs, evocative recreations, and images of those who wrote, and these who read, letters from American battlefronts. *War Letters* is part of the PBS American Experience series. The [website](#) also contains twenty-two printable letters and a teacher's guide.

In the **next issue** of
The Learning Lamp:
Emergency and Intern Certificate
Compared

Web Page

Visit the "new and improved"
Arizona Troops to Teachers web
page.

www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers

While you are there, please complete the online annual information update form if you haven't already done so.

Arizona Troops to Teachers

1535 West Jefferson
Bin #46, Room #121
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Phone: 800-839-2134 / Fax: 602-542-1141

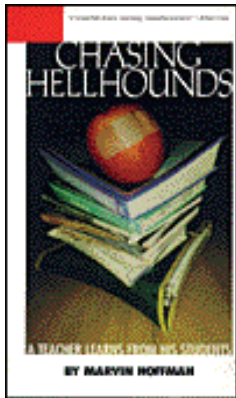
John Scheuer, Director
john.scheuer@azed.gov
602-542-4257

Josie Luna, Program Assistant
josephine.luna@azed.gov
602-542-3201

"Proud to Serve Again"
www.proudtoserveagain.com
www.azed.gov/troops2teachers



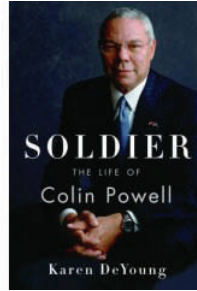
www.pathway2teach.org



Chasing Hellhounds: A Teacher Learns From His Students
Marvin Hoffman

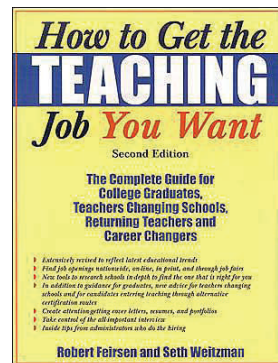
Many books showcase the triumphs of "hero teachers," who swoop into a classroom full of misfits, transforming them into Shakespearean scholars or algebra geniuses. But for most working teachers, the day-to-day struggles are more subtle and come from the students themselves as they discover the pleasures of learning. *Chasing Hellhounds* is the story of nationally regarded educator Marvin Hoffman's experience teaching at Jones High, an inner-city school in Houston. Through his tales of teaching literature to a wide variety of students, he gives us an intimate, sympathetic look at what it's like to be both a giver and a recipient of an education today. Hoffman draws vivid portraits of ten of his students: a girl, living in a Greyhound bus station with her family, who wins a scholarship; a hulking student named Seth, whose explosive temper masks a sensitive and gifted writer; and others who overcome adversity through their own determination and talent. He also chronicles his evolution as a teacher, from the schools of the Mississippi Freedom Summer to his assignment at Jones.

Recommended Reading



Soldier: The Life of Colin Powell
Karen DeYoung

Starred Review. *Washington Post* reporter DeYoung covers Powell's entire career in this nuanced, comprehensively researched first complete biography to bring to life the Jamaican immigrants' son who became chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, secretary of state and a widely supported potential candidate for president. DeYoung presents her subject as above all a soldier, with an ethic of honor and service shaped by his career in the U.S. Army, during which he brought a combination of intellectual force and moral courage to his senior military appointments that distinguished him among his contemporaries. DeYoung, who obtained six in-depth interviews with Powell, explains that he wrestled with whether or not he had the duty to run for president in 2000, but ultimately realized he didn't want the presidency from the "depth of [his] stomach or soul." She correspondingly demonstrates that his continuing commitment to public service drove his ascension to secretary of state—a commitment that was strained to the limit during Powell's four years in office. DeYoung paints a favorable but balanced portrait of Powell, and she avoids using him as an instrument for Bush-bashing. Powell emerges from her account as a person who grew to meet his wider responsibilities. (*Publisher's Weekly*)



Hot To Get The Teaching Job You Want
Robert Feirson, Seth Weitzman

Now extensively revised, this book maintains its place as the most up-to-date book available on job hunting for teachers. The authors cover changes in the educational marketplace; the new mandates about standardized testing and public reporting of student achievement—and what they mean for applicants; how new certification standards and school's requirements affect career changers; the growing acceptance of on-line applications and electronic portfolios; and additional advice for teaching applying to change schools or districts.